

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Terrence O'Donnell, Esquire Williams & Connelly 725 Twelfth Street, NW Washington, DC 20005

RE: MUR 4766

R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

On July 2, 1998, the Federal Election Commission notified your client, the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, of a complaint alleging violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, ("the Act").

On February 10, 2000, the Commission found, on the basis of information in the complaint and information provided on behalf of your client, that there is no reason to believe your client violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b. The Commission has closed the file in this matter. A copy of the First General Counsel's Report is enclosed for your information.

The confidentiality provisions at 2 U.S.C. §437g(a)(12) no longer apply, and this matter is now public. In addition, although the complete file must be placed on the public record within 30 days, this could occur at any time following certification of the Commission's vote. If you wish to submit any factual or legal materials to appear on the public record, please do so as soon as possible. While the file may be placed on the public record before receiving your additional materials, any permissible submission will be added to the record upon receipt.

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If you have any questions, please contact Anne A. Weissenborn, the senior attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Lawrence M. Noble General Counsel

BY:

Lois G. Lerner

Associate General Counsel

Enclosure

First General Counsel's Report